

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 07574 080936Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 /084 W
-----111105 090624Z /20

R 080830Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9327
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 7574

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, ID
SUBJECT: GOI PLANS FOR RELEASE OF POLITICAL DETAINEES

1. KOPKAMTIB CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL YOGA SUGOMO TOLD REPORTERS JUNE 7 THAT THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO THE RELEASE OF 10,000 POLITICAL DETAINEES BEFORE THE END OF 1978, BUT PLANS FOR ACCELERATING THE RELEASES BY STAGES ARE STILL IN PREPARATION. YOGA NOTED THAT 4000 OF THIS YEAR'S RELEASEES WOULD COME FROM BURU ISLAND, AND HE BEMOANED THE FACT THAT ONLY 23 OF THE 1500 DETAINEES RELEASED FROM BURU LAST YEAR TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO SETTLE ON NEW FARMLAND ON THE ISLAND. ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN DIFFICULT FOR THE RELEASEES TO FIND JOBS, HE SAID, VERY FEW OF THEM (260 WEST KALIMANTAN AND 230 IN EAST KALIMANTAN) HAVE CHOSEN TO MOVE TO RESETTLEMENT CENTERS, WITH THE RESULT THAT THESE FACILITIES ARE UNDERUTILIZED.
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PAGE 02 JAKART 07574 080936Z

2. THE 1978 RELEASES WILL GIVE PRIORITY TO PERSONS RETURNING TO AREAS WHERE POLITICAL AND SECURITY RISKS ARE NOT TOO HIGH, YOGA SAID. HE GAVE THE CURRENT TOTAL OF G30S/PKI DETAINEES AS 20,127 INCLUDING ALL CATEGORIES OF LONG-TIME DETAINEES AS WELL AS THOSE RECENTLY DETAINED.

3. COMMENT: YOGA'S CONCERN ABOUT EMPLOYMENT DIFFICULTIES, THE UNDERUTILIZATION OF RESETTLEMENT CENTERS, AND SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS IN AREAS TO WHICH RELEASEES WILL RETURN SUGGESTS THAT THE GOI WILL CONTINUE ITS POLICY OF ALLOWING THE RELEASEES TO EXERCISE FREE CHOICE BETWEEN RESETTLEMENT CENTERS AND RETURNING HOME IN SPITE OF THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED. THE STATISTICS HE QUOTED ON LAST YEAR'S RELEASES INDICATE THAT OVER 90 PERCENT OF THOSE RELEASED RETURNED DIRECTLY TO THEIR HOMES.
MASTERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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